

Message Text

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43

ACTION OC-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 SY-05 /021 W

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O 241320Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6809

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTION PARA 3 (B))

FROM EMBASSY/RCO/RSO.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM ASEC ASFSP

SUBJECT: VHF PROTECTIVE RADIO PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY: VIEW CONTINUING DETERIORATION POLITICAL SITUATION AND CIVIL WAR IN LEBANON, IMPERATIVE OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY VHF NETWORK BEIRUT BE IMPROVED SOONEST.

2. BACKGROUND: MISSION VHF NETWORK IS OPERATING ON FREQUENCY 162.750 MHZ. FREQUENCY 162.125 MHZ CANNOT BE USED AS IT IS ASSIGNED TO LEBANESE ARMY. VIEW TERRAIN AND NUMEROUS HIGH RISE BUILDINGS IN BEIRUT, THERE IS ESTABLISHED NEED FOR REPEATER STATION. THE PROBLEMS OF OPERATING WITHOUT ONE PARTIALLY AND TEMPORARILY SOLVED BY MANUAL RELAY MSG RESIDENCE, HOWEVER, IMPRACTICAL TO MAN MANUAL REALY STATION ON 24--HOUR BASIS PERMANENTLY. WITH THE INTENT OF OBTAINING INFORMALLY CLEARANCE FOR A SECOND VHF FREQUENCY, EMBASSY APPROACHED MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS IN SEPTEMBER AND FOUND OUT THAT "OUR" OPERATING 162.750 MHZ FREQUENCY WAS ASSIGNED TO ZACCA PAGING CO. AS THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANY INTERFERENCE ON THIS FREQUENCY, IT IS APPARENT THAT ZACCA NOT USING IT AND MINCOM REP SAID WE COULD CONTINUE TO USE IT AS LONG AS ZACCA DID NOT COMPLAIN. UPON FURTHER PROBING, MINCOM REP INDICATED THAT 162.050 MHZ AND

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162.550 WERE FREE AS OF THE MOMENT BUT WOULD NOT COMMIT

HIMSELF IN ASSIGNING THESE TWO FREQUENCIES TO THE EMBASSY.
IN FURTHER ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN INFORMAL BUT POSITIVE
CONFIRMATION THAT THE TWO FREQUENCIES IN QUESTION COULD
BE IN FACT ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY, APPOINTMENTS WERE
MADE WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MINCOM. UNFORTUNATELY,
THESE APPOINTMENTS WERE CANCELLED AS THE MORE RECENT
ROUND OF CIVIL UNREST BEGAN SIX WEEKS AGO AND MOST
LEBANESE GOVT OFFICES HAVE BEEN CLOSED SINCE.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS: WITH THE CONTINUING AND GROWING
CIVIL DISTURBANCES, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE PROTECTIVE
VHF RADIO NETWORK BE FULLY OPERATIONAL AND ACCESSIBLE TO
ALL SUSCRIBERS ON 24-HOUR BASIS. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS,
WE NEED A REPEATER STATION SOONEST, AND TO HAVE A REPEATER
SYSTEEM, WE NEED TWO FREQUENCIES. THUS, WE HAVE TWO ALTERNATIVES:
(A) AS OUR TWO STANDARD FREQUENCIES ARE NOT FREE IN BEIRUT,
USE 162.050 MHZ AND 162.550 MHZ DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE
CANNOT HAVE THEM OFFICIALLY CLARED FOR OUR USE AT THE
PRESENT OR (B) CONTINUE TO USE 162.750 MHZ PLUS 162.550 MHZ.
IN BOTH CASES, WE RUN THE RISK THAT SONEONE WILL
COME UP ON OUR FREQUENCIES WITH THE RESULTING INTERFERENCE
TO OUR NETWORK AND VICE VERSA. HOWEVER, WE RECOMMEND
ALTERNATIVE (A) AS AT LEAST WE HAVE HAD INFORMAL INDINATIONS
THAT THE FREQUENCIES IN QUESTION ARE NOT UTILIZED PRESENTLY
AND DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN WAIT ANY LONGER FOR MINCON'S
CLEARANCE. NEVERTHELESS, THE MATTER WILL BE PURSUED
WITH MINCOM WHEN OFFICIALS ARE AVAILABLE.

4. DEPT'S ADVICE RE FOREGOING WILL BE APPRECIATED AS WELL
AS ESTIMATED LEADTIME REQUIRED TO PROCURE THE FOL EQUIPMENT
CRYSTALLIZED TO 162.050 MHZ AND 162.550 MHZ.

(A) ONE REPEATER STATION

(B) 7 MT-76

(C) 2 DT-76

(D) 2 FM-56

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(E) 50 PE-66 (10 PE-66 WITH MOBILE ATTACHEMENTS)
ALL PE-66 TO HAVE SELCAL CAPABILITY.

(F) 1 TYPE 99 ENCODER.

(G) 25 PVO-6 CRYSTALLIZED TO REPEATER TRANSMIT FREQ.

5. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ONE HN-36 CRYSTALLIZED TO

162.125 MHZ AND 162.750 MHZ WAS SEIZED BY GALLAGHER/DYKE'S
KIDNAPPERS. THEREFORE, FREQUENCIES COMPROMISED. (BEIRUT'S
13161).
GODLEY

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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